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The Hongkong Telegraph

WEATHER FORECAST
CLOUDY.
Barometer 29.72.

(ESTABLISHED 1881.)

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May 17, 1918. Temperature 6 a.m. 79 2 p.m. 80
Humidity 87 89

May 17, 1917. Temperature 6 a.m. 70 2 p.m. 71
Humidity 94 90

7945

日八初月四

FRIDAY, MAY 17, 1918.

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REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

BRITAIN'S NEW MINEFIELD.

A Barrier to Submarine Activities.

London, May 15.
The great British minefield operations from May 15 are likely to prove an insuperable barrier to enemy submarine activities in British waters. The new area covers 22,000 square miles and is the most extensive ever laid. It stretches from the Scottish and Norwegian coasts and the outlet to the ocean on the Scottish side is patrolled and guarded most stringently. The Admiralty has further notified of other minefields and also the closing of Pentland Firth. The North Sea is now practically closed.

THE WESTERN FRONT.

An Intermittent Bombardment.

London, May 15.
A French communiqué says:—There is an intermittent bombardment in the Grivesnes sector. Enemy assemblages and convoys in the region of Montdidier and Noyon Guisard Road were dispersed.

Five Hundred Bombs Dropped.

London, May 15.
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports on aviation as follows:—Only a few hours of flying was possible on Monday, but a great deal of work was done. Five hundred bombs were dropped on various targets. We brought down two machines. No British machines were missing.

A Minor German Attack.

London, May 15.
Reuter's correspondent at the British Headquarters says:—Following a heavy bombardment, the enemy launched an infantry attack against the French positions and captured Hill 44 north of Kemmel, but it was only a minor affair. A German raid opposite Morlaumont last night led to a number of them being killed and 48 taken prisoners, which was considerably more than our casualties. The future is regarded as being partly in the lap of this weather, for the Germans are experiencing vastly different weather from the Anglo-French forces during the preparation of the great push.

Anglo-French Unity.

London, May 15.
Reuter's correspondent at the French Headquarters states:—The most important feature of last week's fighting was the perfect Anglo-French Staff unity. Here is a typical example:—A French Divisional Commander said:—I ask the British artillery to put a thousand shells into a certain German position; the reply came:—We are giving fifteen hundred.

Both the French and the Germans planned an attack for the morning of the 8th instant. A French Division, with the co-operation of the British artillery, captured Pompiertart, to the east of L. Olytte. A British Divisional Commander then advised that an enemy attack was developing on Hill 44. The Germans came on in strength of three to one, seeking the point of liaison in the Franco-British line. They signally failed herein, but compelled our line to fall back on a stream called the Viverbeck, where the advance stopped. The Germans never reached their first objective, which was to cross the stream. The second objective was the town of Dickebusch, but an attack all day was held up at the brook. At seven o'clock in the evening, the Franco-British counter-attacked, recapturing almost all the ground lost earlier in the day. The straightening of the Franco-British line necessitated the recapture of Hill 44, which operation was carried out on May 11 by a battalion of French infantry, who, after a long fight, drove off two German battalions and captured five officers and 100 men and a large number of machine guns. British artillery again contributed.

Successful French Attack.

London, May 15.
A French communiqué states:—There was a violent bombardment during the night in the region north of Montdidier and between Montdidier and Noyon. We last evening vigorously attacked to the south of Naillies and seized a wood on the west bank of the Avre, despite obstinate enemy resistance. A strong German counter-attack this morning led to a lively fight, but we entirely maintained our gains, took seventy prisoners and inflicted very serious losses on the enemy. A German attempt south of Rollot, after a lively bombardment, was also completely defeated.

Latest Report from Front.

London, May 15.
Reuter's correspondent at the British Headquarters, writing under today's date, says:—Much local enemy artillery activity is reported from various parts of the battlefield. During the night gas-shelling in the Flanders and Somme areas was accompanied by a harassing fire against the front near Wicelje, near Dickebusch Lake, around Hinges and St. Laurent-Blangy, and against Villers-Bretonneux, Corbie and Vaux-sur-Somme. A fresh westerly wind is blowing athwart the battlefields. The only infantry fighting in which the British have been engaged was a minor brush south-west of Ridge Wood. The French at Hill 44 were heavily shelled at night. The position there is somewhat obscure. Enemy airmen are unusually active in Flanders.

PRUSSIAN ELECTORAL REFORM.

Equal Suffrage Rejected.

London, May 15.
Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam says the Prussian Lower House has passed the third reading of the Electoral Reform Bill, but with the clause granting equal suffrage deleted.
The Progressives, Poles and Social Democrats opposed the emancipated Bill, and the Minister, Herr Friedberg, declared that the Government would employ all constitutional means to carry equal suffrage, which the House had previously rejected by 238 votes to 185.
If equal suffrage is not accepted within a definite period, the House will be dissolved.

SIR WILFRID LAURIER'S GOLDEN WEDDING.

London, May 14.
Their Majesties the King and Queen have sent a congratulatory message to Sir Wilfrid Laurier on the occasion of his golden wedding.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

GENERAL MAURICE'S FUTURE.

Appointed a Military Correspondent.

London, May 15.
Major General Maurice has been appointed Military Correspondent of the Daily Chronicle.

Not a Disgruntled Soldier.

London, May 15.
In the course of an article, Major General Maurice denies that he is a disgruntled soldier turned out of a job. He was about to take up important employment in France and had therefore described a promising career. He does not intend to indulge in recriminations, his sole object being to help readers to get on with the war, but he feels bound to explain that he was at Versailles. He was in the corridor outside the Council Chamber engaged in work in connection with questions discussed. He declares that nothing is further from his mind than to serve a partisan political purpose.

ENEMY OPPRESSION IN RUSSIA.

Some Demands by the Government.

London, May 15.
According to Reuter's correspondent at Paris, a Moscow telegram states that, replying to the German demand for the immediate surrender of the Russian Black Sea Fleet to the Germans at Sebastopol, M. Tchitchakoff says the Russian Government is prepared to consent to the return of the Fleet to Sebastopol provided the limits of the Austro-Turco-German occupation of Russia and also the frontiers of Ukraine and Finland are definitely specified, that hostilities on Russian territory immediately cease and that Austro-Turco-German forces completely evacuate Sebastopol.

THE ITALIAN FRONT.

Enemy Massing Troops and Artillery.

London, May 15.
Reuter's correspondent at Rome says that daily aerial scouting, and also the admissions of Austrian prisoners, confirm that the Austrians are massing great numbers of troops and artillery in the Alps and Friuli plains. They are working chiefly at night in order to conceal their activity. Enemy aircraft has recently increased, but the Anglo-Italian airmen are still in every respect superior.

BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA.

A Terrible Picture of Distress.

London, May 15.
The Agram newspaper *Glas Slobode* draws a terrible picture of the distress in Bosnia-Herzegovina, which is worse even than in Galicia and Bukovina. Whole districts are depopulated and devastated as by a typhoon and numerous inhabitants have been deported or have died in internment camps, those remaining being massacred by Austrian soldiers or having died of starvation. The deaths exceeded the births by 5,000 in 1915 and by 23,711 in 1916, the mortality not including those who have fallen on the battlefield. The whole of the livestock has been destroyed or consumed by the Army and it is impossible to cultivate the ground owing to the absence of oxen. An attempt by the Vienna authorities to sow discord among the Jugo-Slavs by forming a new political group in Bosnia, with the object of promoting the creation of a new Croat State, has failed hopelessly.

EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.

New Policy Favoured by Britain.

London, May 14.
In the House of Lords, Lord Barnham pleaded that steps should be taken to exchange British non-coms, and men captured in 1914 and 1915, especially in view of the fact that France and Germany had agreed to exchange war prisoners of over eighteen months.

Lord Newton, replying, said the Government's deliberate policy hitherto had been to refuse to exchange able-bodied combatants, because the more they exchanged prisoners the more they prolonged the war. The Government thought that if such an exchange were agreed to it would lead to the Allied Governments doing the same, with the result that there would be an enormous exchange, as exemplified between Russia and Germany. It was a surprise to find that a Franco-German Agreement of a very far-reaching character had been ratified. He believed that the Agreement involved military and civilian prisoners numbering altogether 330,000 on both sides. The whole situation was thereby altered. He was therefore authorised to state that the Government were prepared to reconsider the question of exchange of non-coms. If an Anglo-German agreement could be reached exchanging all combatants and civilians who had been in captivity for three years, it would not be a bad bargain for us, because the numbers were approximately equal.

NEW AUSTRO-GERMAN ALLIANCE.

London, May 15.
According to Reuter's correspondent at Zurich, a Vienna telegram states that the new Austro-German Alliance has been fixed for a term of twenty years, with a Military Convention and the closest economic and Customs relations.

EMPEROR KARL'S MOVEMENTS.

London, May 15.
Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam learns from Vienna that the Emperor Karl is shortly proceeding to Sofia and Constantinople.

ENEMY TRANSPORT SUNK.

London, May 15.
Reuter's correspondent at Rome says Italian destroyers attacked an enemy convoy making for Durazzo and sank a transport.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

IRISH AFFAIRS.

The Powers of the Viceroy.

London, May 15.
In the House of Commons, Mr. Herbert Samuel asked:—Is any change contemplated in the status or functions of the Chief Secretary of Ireland?

Mr. Bonar Law replied that there is no change in the constitutional position, but in view of the present situation in Ireland the Viceroy will exercise to a greater extent than has recently been customary the full responsibilities attaching to his office. Replying to further questions, Mr. Bonar Law said the Viceroy and Chief Secretary, while not members of the War Cabinet, would have the equivalent of Cabinet rank.

Passport for Dublin's Lord Mayor.

London, May 15.
It was announced at an anti-Conscription Conference in Dublin that the Foreign Office had issued a passport to the Lord Mayor of London to proceed to America.

RUMANIAN AFFAIRS.

The Ratification of Peace Treaty.

London, May 15.
An official announcement from Jassy regarding the signature of the Peace Treaty mentions the dissolution of Parliament. The Treaty will be submitted for ratification to the new Parliament which is assembling on June 17.

More German Influence.

London, May 15.
Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam says the Germano-Rumanian Commercial Agreement abolishes third party Customs preferences and provides for the construction of telegraphic and telephonic systems by which Rumania will be brought into the closest touch with Berlin.

SUBMARINE WARFARE.

The Situation Quite Satisfactory.

London, May 15.
In the House of Commons, Mr. Houston asked for information regarding "one of the successful operations in capturing and destroying enemy submarines found our coasts during the past three weeks."

Dr. Macnamara replied that the general trend of submarine warfare had progressed quite satisfactorily since January 1. News from neutral countries and the increased bustfulness and public disclaimers of the enemy proved our recent success, but the Admiralty was averse to stating the results of a short period, whether good or bad.

Replying to a further question, Dr. Macnamara stated that from January 1 to April 30, one hundred and seventy-two British steamers had escaped uninjured from attacks by enemy submarines.

FRENCH CONSPIRATORS SENTENCED.

London, May 15.
Reuter's Paris correspondent says that at the Bonnet-Rouge trial, M. Duval, the manager, who received huge sums from enemy sources, was sentenced to death and six others were sentenced to terms of imprisonment ranging from two years to ten years and/or fines.

A Paris message states that the concluding stage of the Bonnet-Rouge trial of seven persons charged with unlawful propaganda was noteworthy for the appearance of the ex-Premier, M. Caillaux, who was called to answer one question. The President curtly allowed him five minutes, but M. Caillaux, who was faultlessly dressed, was very cool and remained in the box for forty minutes. He denied that he had financially supported the newspaper Bonnet-Rouge since the war. He concluded by remarking that he had preserved documents which might be useful to the judicial authorities.

GERMANY'S MANY ENEMIES.

London, May 15.
In the House of Commons, replying to a question, Mr. Balfour showed that altogether nineteen countries had declared war against Germany since August, 1914, while the following had broken off diplomatic relations:—Bolivia, Honduras, Nicaragua, Haiti, San Domingo, Costa Rica, Peru, Uruguay and Ecuador.

GERMANS TO EVACUATE AALAND ISLES.

London, May 15.
Reuter's correspondent at Stockholm says the Germans are to evacuate the Aaland Islands on the 23rd instant. Finnish troops are already replacing them.

A BRITISH LINER WRECKED.

London, May 15.
The 7,000-ton Nelson liner Highland Scott has been wrecked off Rio de Janeiro.

AMERICAN LOANS TO ALLIES.

London, May 15.
Reuter's correspondent at Washington states that Mr. McAdoo has authorized additional loans to Britain of 200 million dollars, to France of 100 million dollar dollars and to Italy 100 million dollar, making the total to all the Allies 5,784 million dollars.

DUTCH SHIPPING.

London, May 15.
Reuter's correspondent at the Hague says the Governor General of the Dutch East Indies reports that shipping to America has been resumed. Export licences are now being issued for goods the export of which is prohibited.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to the "Telegraph.")

OBITUARY.

The Duke of Northumberland.

London, May 15.
The death is announced of the Duke of Northumberland.

[The deceased, who was the seventh Duke of the line, had been a Trustee of the British Museum since 1900, was Lord Lieutenant of Northumberland, and Chancellor of Durham. He was educated at Oxford and had represented North Northumberland in Parliament from 1868 to 1885. He had been Treasurer of the Household and was a past President of the Archaeological Institute. He was 72 years of age. His heir is Earl Percy, who has seen much military service, and who has been mentioned in despatches in the present war.]

CANTON NEWS.

Our Canton correspondent writes as follows:—

A sum of \$380,000 has been borrowed from the Salt Commissioner and distributed to various banks to meet the redemption of Bank of China's notes in limited amounts. It is reported that the reason for the manager of the Bank leaving secretly is that the Authority has drawn heavily on the bank.

It is rumoured that a Hongkong merchant has applied to the Government for permission to sell the opium belonging to the late Hong On Co. within a limited time. It is believed that permission will be granted.

A report from Shaikwan states that on the capture of Nam Hung City by the Northern troops, the ships were all closed, most of the merchants have removed, bandits and pirates are availing themselves of the opportunity to carry out looting, and business traffic on the North River is at a standstill. Plague is now prevailing in Ka Chow and Kowloon cities. Scores of deaths occur every day. A police officer has proposed to the Authority the issue of Premium Bonds to the amount of \$10,000,000, to be repaid by drawing once every month, so that the urgent needs of the Government may be met.

False Evidence.

A Chinese was charged on remand, before Mr. J. B. Wood, this morning, with the theft of a jacket. Inspector Sim said he had inquired into the case and found defendant's statement, denying the theft, was true. Mr. J. B. Wood, reprimanded the Indian constable and told Sim he would be punished for giving false evidence the next time. Defendant was discharged.

Stolen Jacket.

A Chinese was charged at the Police Court to-day, with stealing a jacket from a house in Bonham Road. Complainant left his coat to dry on a pole, when defendant stole it. The theft was observed by a passer-by who arrested accused. Defendant denied the theft and said he took the jacket, intending to return it to his owner, as it was raining. Defendant was sentenced to a month's hard labour.

DON'T FORGET.

TO-DAY.

Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.

TO-MORROW.

Lawley Co.—Opening performance at Theatre Royal—"It Pays to Advertise." Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.

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GENERAL NEWS.

1918

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Queen Inspects Women Drivers.

The Queen inspected a detach-
ment of the Women's Legion at
Buckingham Palace recently. The
khaki-clad members of the unit
were all motor-drivers attached to
the R. F. C. and A.S.O., and they
drove ambulances, wagons,
motor-cycles and cars into the
Palace grounds and past her
Majesty, who congratulated them
on their smart appearance and
good driving.

Land Women's Wages Raised.

The minimum wage for women
enrolled in the Land Army has
been increased from 18s. to 20s.
per week, and for those who have
passed their efficiency test, 22s. is
now the minimum. Efficiency
tests are being held weekly in
Monmouth, and will continue to
be held until all the women land
workers have been officially tested.
Owing to the increased number
of recruits new training centres
for women have been opened in
Cambridgeshire and Hertford-
shire.

Death of Yorkshire M.P.

Sir Swire Smith, M.P. for the
Keighley Division of Yorkshire,
died in London recently, after an
operation. He was 76 years of
age. Closely connected with the
woollen industry, Sir Swire found-
ed the first technical school in the
country at Keighley, and was a
prominent member of the First
Royal Commission on Technical
Instruction from 1881-1884. He
was knighted in 1898 in recogni-
tion of his services in this work.

Save Your Scraps.

In a circular the National
Salvage Council appeals to every
local authority in the country to
adopt a scheme for collecting
waste material and promises help
in disposing of it. It is hoped
that every householder will realize
that this is an opportunity to help
the nation—and make a profit.
For one thing, bones should never
be burnt or thrown away. Even
after making soup every 18lbs. of
bones can be made to supply
enough glycerine for an 18-poun-
der shell and can afterwards be
covered into manure or poultry
food.

A Baron in Distress.

Baron Leopold Kromenberg,
St. James's Place, S.W., who was
summoned at West London
recently for the payment of £35
in respect of damage done to a
ventilating shaft belonging to the
London County Council, said that
he had no means of paying the
money. His Polish estates had
been devastated by the Germans
and for some time now he had
received no money from the pre-
sent Russian Government. In
adjoining the case *sine die*, Mr.
de Grey said the baron was an
unfortunate victim of the
Bolsheviks.

Train Wrecks Houses.

Getting out of control on a
gradient, a L. and N.W. train of
26 wagons, with nearly 400 tons
of coal, uprooted a bufferstop at
Bolton, passed through a wall,
and after crossing a street, de-
molished the fronts of three
cottages. Seven people who were
just going to bed had remarkable
escapes; five rooms being wrecked.
The engine fell into the cellar of
one dwelling, but the driver and
fireman escaped unhurt. The
brakemen jumped off before the
collision, and he also was unin-
jured. Two people were taken to
the infirmary, having been injured
in the debris, and two others were
rescued through a bedroom win-
dow by firemen.

Judges' Last Joint.

Owing to an amusing mistake
Mr. Justice Lawrence and Mr.
Justice Sankey, who opened the
Birmingham Assizes on Satur-
day, sat down to a meatless din-
ner overnight. The joint which
had been supplied for them had
been eaten by their servants. Be-
fore the arrival of the judges, who
like everybody else are rationed,
the week's supply of food was de-
livered. Included was a small joint
of mutton, which, owing to some
misunderstanding, was taken to
be intended for the servants who
"company" "My Lords" upon
circuit. This joint was duly
cooked and enjoyed by the said
servants. Then inquiry was
made as to what had become of
the judges' meat for the week-
end, and the reply came that it
had already been devoured. Their
lordships accepted the position
philosophically, with the best of
good humour.

FRENCH LESSONS.

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GENERAL NEWS.

A Policeman V.C.
Sergeant J. McAulay, V.C., D.O.M., was presented recently with a silver cigar and cigarette case and a silver cigarette case by Major Lord Stair, on behalf of his comrades of the sergeants' mess of the Scots Guard, Wellington Barracks. McAulay was a member of the Glasgow police, and is the only member of the police force in Great Britain who has won the V.C.

Wool from Dogs.
It has been demonstrated, according to the recently formed British Dogs' Wool Association, that an exceptionally high class of wool can be spun from the combings of all breeds of long-haired dogs, and samples from chow, Pekingese, poodles, bergers d'Alsace, and sheepdogs have been submitted to wool experts, who are emphatic in their commendation.

Milk and Newspapers.
The Bishop of Willesden, preaching at St. Andrew Under-shaft, said that the Churchman should be in favour of keeping children longer at school and saving them from being sent out early in the morning and going into school dead tired in order that people should have their morning newspaper or milk. He thoroughly appreciated the advantage of having his milk and his newspaper, but it must not interfere with the development of the training and education of little children.

"I.B.S." on his Many-Sided Self.
"I have found it an advantage in public life to present myself in different characters," said Mr. George Bernard Shaw at a Fabian meeting. "I have been a very active member for ten years of my trade union. I can go into another society and say: 'Gentlemen, I address you as an old Socialist.' I can say, too: I am concerned with the drink trade and address you as a licensed victualler. I am the proprietor of the Fox and Pheasant, which I helped to build; and then I can go, and address a meeting of teetotallers." (Laughter.)

"Sherlock Holmes" Arrested.
A comedy of a police officer arresting a man, who, according to his counsel, seemed to think he was a second Sherlock Holmes, was described at Lambeth Police Court. Daniel Lane, private in a labour corps, was charged with loitering for the purpose of picking pockets. It was stated that about a year ago he brought about the arrest of two girl pick-pockets, and was commended by Scotland Yard, besides being enlisted in the Press. On the present occasion he was watching two persons he suspected when he was arrested. Prisoner was released on his own recognisances in £25.

Children's Ambulance Fund.
The Children's Ambulance Fund, started in February, 1915, by Miss Pamela Henn Collins, has now reached a total sufficient to provide a second ambulance for service with the armies in the field. This result has been attained chiefly by the generosity of the Children of Canada, who have subscribed close on £500. The collection of this large sum, from many sources in small amounts, was due to the energy and enterprise of Miss Dorothea Drummond, of Montreal, a young relative of Lady Drummond. The ambulance will bear an inscription recording the Canadian children's generosity.

King and the Hillmen.
A happy incident in the King's visit to India as Prince of Wales was recalled recently when his Majesty received at Buckingham Palace a party of officers and N.G.O.s of the Indian Labour Corps. The visitors represented about 2,000 men from Upper Burma, Hillmen from the Chin Hills, who are now in London on leave from France. Whilst his Majesty was at Mandalay, a deputation of Chinese was sent down from the hills to present a loyal address, in which they asked the Prince to convey to the King, Emperor an assurance of their devotion to the Empire. The hillmen have not always been loyal subjects, for when Burma was annexed they revolted and gave a great deal of trouble. Now, in fulfilment of their promise, they have become valuable soldiers of the Empire.

NOTICES.

The Name does not make
the Piano—A good piano
makes a name for itself
hence the

WEBER

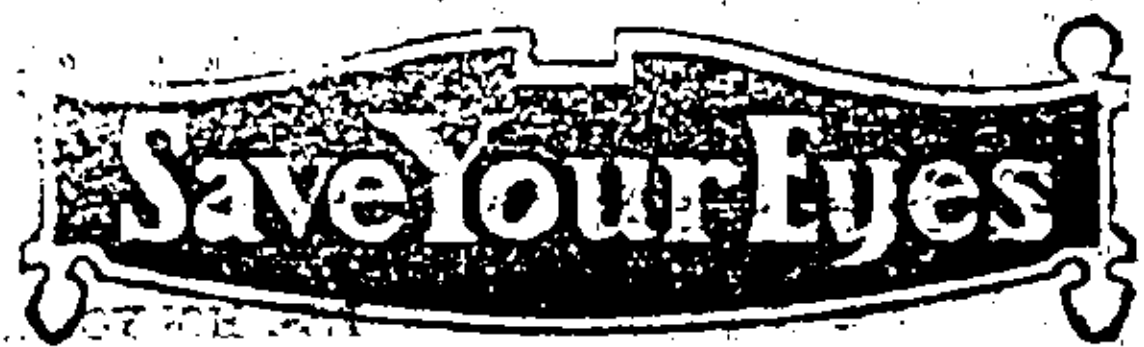
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PHONE NO. 1116.

TWO SEAPLANES BEAT FIVE GERMANS.

Airmen's Grim Story of a
"Bulldog Fight."

Thrilling stories are now to hand of the engagement between two British seaplanes and five enemy aircraft, which was briefly reported in an Admiralty communique recently. The fight took place in the southern part of the North Sea, and in half an hour one enemy machine had been shot down and destroyed, and a third seaplane driven down on the water.

The encounter was a sequel to an engagement which had taken place just before 9 o'clock that morning between three of our seaplanes and five of the enemy near the North Hinder. This fight, during which our men also attacked a U boat, ended by the Germans making a bolt for home.

Three hours later two British seaplanes, the crews of which included men who had taken part in the earlier fight, discovered while on patrol duty a hostile formation resting on the water. Giving rapidly on the Germans in their swift descent, our two machines poured in such rapid fire that the enemy formation at once broke up and their machines were scattered in circles, apparently to gain a greater altitude. Still our airmen pursued them relentlessly, diving again and again on the formation, and riddling the machines with bullets, until at last the five enemy airmen formed up in single file and fled.

The result was that one of the enemy twin-seaters was sent crashing down on the water. Meanwhile, the sister British seaplane had been busy with another twin-seater. One of the pilots shot the German-gunner,

who was observed to tumble over the side of the fuselage, while the machine nose dived to the water and was unable to take any further part in the engagement.

Overtaking another German, one of our machines poured such rapid fire into her that her observer was shot, and she was driven down.

"We had orders to keep our bombs, to run from nothing (no matter what the odds were against us), and to show the Hun that we could fight," remarked one of the crew responsible for this success. "A nice start for a party! We simply riddled them and they did the same for us. The first one we brought down tried to cross our bow to ram us, but misjudged as we held on and he had to go below us."

"I was using the bow gun and was leaning over when he came out right under me with the gunner, who sat aft, looking at me and pointing his gun in my face. I shot him, and the machine went up on its end and into a nose dive. It levelled out just at the water and withdrew. I don't know how much damage was done for we hadn't time to look."

"They saw me crawling in an 'made it quite hot,' said another of our men. "Luckily for me I slipped in the operator's blood and missed a very good burst that was meant for my head. My own gun had got so hot that the sights rolled off, and I had taken with me what ammunition I had left to use his gun for a bit."

"We used 2,500 rounds between the two machines. Most of the action was at about 200 feet. It was a regular bulldog fight and very dirty work."

As an instance of the coolness of our men it may be mentioned that in the height of the action the wireless operator of the second machine was shot through the neck and collapsed. One of the pilots and engineer left their seats at once, climbed along the machine to the operator's seat and administered first aid, returning afterwards to their guns.

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WANTED.—OFFICE in Central position. State particulars to Box 1393 c/o Hongkong Telegraph.

WANTED.—Two MARINE ENGINEERS with shop experience to act as Workshop Foremen, also a Foreman Marine Boiler-maker and a Foreman Ship Carpenter to take up duties in Shanghai. Address all communications to: Z. Y. X. c/o Hongkong Telegraph.

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FOR SALE.—"GALESEND," 109 The Peak, 6 rooms. Apply to: C. H. Gale, P.W. Dept.

FOR SALE.—SMALL CAR. Two-seater. Four cylinders Magneto ignition. Latest model. Electric light. Electric starter. Generator and Horn. Economical. New. Reasonable price. Post Office Box 463.

NOTICES.

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BRITISH AMERICAN TOBACCO CO.

FOR TIRED FEET.

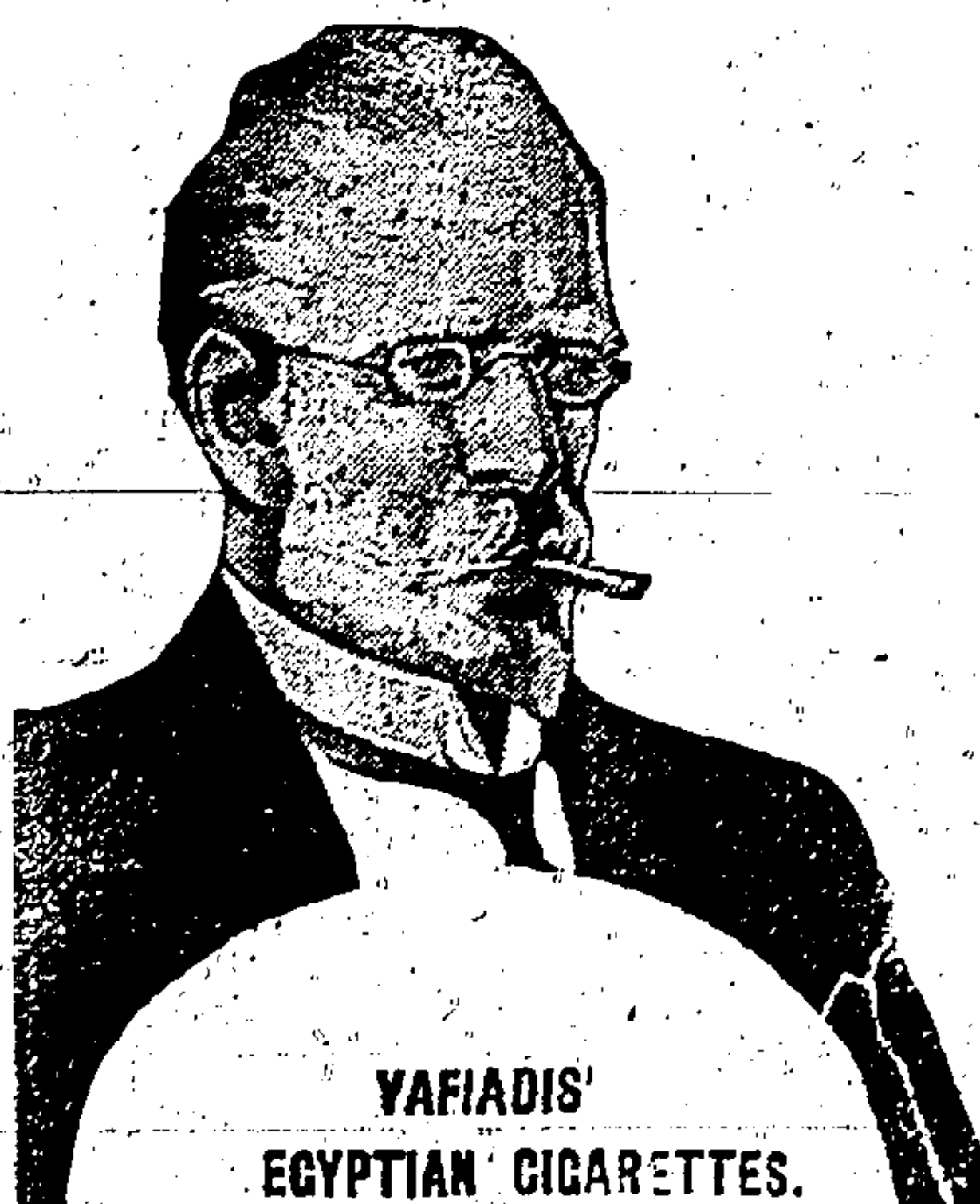
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Ventilating Looftite Socks.

BEING IMPREGNATED WITH ANTISEPTIC FOOT POWDER THEY
CURE OFFENSIVE FEET AND ARE COOL IN WEAR.

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YAFIADIS
EGYPTIAN CIGARETTES.

Imperial Bouquet per	100	\$5.30
Crown Prince	100	4.65
"	50	2.35
"	10	.50
Extra Fine (Grand Format)	50	2.35
Nectar	50	2.35
Yildiz	25	1.10
Club Size	10	.40
Non Plus, Ultra	100	3.60
"	50	1.85
"	20	.75
Superline	100	2.40
"	50	1.20

SOLE AGENTS—

THE HONGKONG CIGAR STORE CO., LD.

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NOTICES.

NEW STOCKS OF
ENGLISH AND AMERICAN
BOOTS & SHOES.

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WHITE
FOR LADIES GENTLEMEN

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A CHOICE DISPLAY

OF
MEN'S WEAR

AT

SHAW'S

FOR

PRESENT SEASON.

THE MOST COMPLETE STOCK

IN THE COLONY.

INSPECTION INVITED.

J. T. SHAW

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KALOTHERMINE.

A SAFE AND SIMPLE APPLICATION.

HAS BEEN USED WITH CONSPICUOUS SUCCESS IN
THE TREATMENT OF PNEUMONIA, BRONCHITIS,
SPRAINS, BRUISES, BOILS, BURNS, AND IN ALL
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ANTISEPTIC AND ANTIPHLOGISTIC

Easy to use and Entirely supersedes the old
fashioned LINSEED POULTICES, BLISTERS,
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Sole Agents: A. S. WATSON & CO. LTD Hongkong & China.

NOTICES.

THE HONGKONG & SOUTH
CHINA WAR SAVINGS
ASSOCIATION.

APPLICATION forms for
Membership of the above
Association may be obtained
from all the Banks or from the
undersigned.

THE UNION INSURANCE
SOCIETY OF CANTON, LTD.
Honorary Secretaries &
Treasurers.

Hongkong, 15th January, 1917.

G. R.
WHIT-MONDAY AND
EMPIRE DAY.

THIS Office will be open for
all purposes from 9 A.M. to
12 NOON on MONDAY the 20th
and FRIDAY the 24th May,
1918.

Licensed Warehouses cannot
be opened on these dates.

(Ed.) D. W. TRATMAN,
Superintendent
Imports and Exports.
Import and Export Office,
Hongkong, 15th May, 1918.

NOTICE.

CARVALHO & COMPANY.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
that MR. HENRY ARM-
AND HENRIKSON CASTRO
has this day ceased to be the
Manager of our business at
Hongkong and his authority to
sign our Firm Name has been
withdrawn.

Dated this 6th day of May,
1918.

CARVALHO & CO.

NOTICES.

HONGKONG JAPANESE MASSAGE
ASSOCIATION.

WE beg to notify the Public that
we, the undersigned, being proper
and fully certificated Masseurs,
have this day formed the above
Massage Association.

Mr. U. SUGA 3 Queen's Road Central
Mrs. A. SUGA
Mrs. M. MORITA Duddell Street
Mr. T. TAKAYE
Mr. I. HONDA 54 Queen's Road Central
Mrs. S. HONDA

YOUR
NAME

Blank forms have
been sent to every known
address. Please fill same and
return to—

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P.O. Box 431
or to KELLY & WALSH
Chater Road.

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TEL. 2088 HONGKONG.

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WILL dispatch VESSELS to the Undermentioned PORTS

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SHANGHAI, MOJI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA.

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WIRELESS ON ALL STEAMERS. Return tickets at a fare-and-a-half available to Europe for two years, or Intermediate Ports for six months. Round-the-world and through tickets to New York at Special Rates.

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P. & O. S. N. Co.'s office
Hongkong, 1st April, 1917.E. V. D. Parr,
Superintendent.CANADIAN PACIFIC
OCEAN SERVICES LIMITED

TRANS PACIFIC LINES

CANADA, UNITED STATES
AND EUROPE

QUICKEST TIME ACROSS THE PACIFIC

— SAILING ON OR ABOUT —

Monteagle	18th May	Monteagle	30th July
Empress of Japan	22nd May	Empress of Asia	—
Empress of Asia	—	Empress of Russia	—
Empress of Russia	—	Empress of Japan	11th Sept.
Empress of Japan	17th July	Monteagle	8th Oct.

Regular Mail, Passenger and Freight Services.
Excellent Accommodation. Moderate Rates.

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Sailings from Hongkong at noon.
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3. "VENEZUELA" July 17th.

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The Safety and Comfort of Passengers is our First Consideration. Special care is given to the cuisine, and the attendance on passengers cannot be surpassed. Tickets are interchangeable with the Toyo Kisen Kaisha and the Canadian Pacific Ocean Service, Ltd.

For further information, rates, literature, schedules, etc., apply to:—
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Chater Road.

Telephone No. 141.

SHIPPING

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

(JAPAN MAIL S.S. CO.)

Sailings from Hongkong subject to alteration.

Destination.	Steamer & Displacement.	Sailing Dates.
SHANGHAI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA	*Kamakura Maru T. 12,500	SAT., 25th May, at 11 a.m.
	*Tamba Maru T. 12,500	SUN., 26th May, at 11 a.m.
NAGASAKI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA	*Tango Maru T. 13,500	FRI., 17th May, at 4 p.m.
	*Nikko Maru T. 9,600	SATUR., 15th June, at 11 a.m.
SHANGHAI, MOJI & KOBE	*Shwah-wu T. 8,000	THURSDAY, 30th May.

LONDON OR LIVERPOOL, VIA SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, DELAGODA, CAPE TOWN, VIA MANILA, ZANZIBAR, BRISBANE, SYDNEY, MELBOURNE, ADELAIDE, NEW YORK, BOSTON, PANAMA CANAL, PANAMA, COLON, SINGAPORE, PENANG & RANGOON.

For date of sailing apply at the Company's Office.

HONGKONG-VICTORIA, B.C.-SEATTLE VIA MANILA, SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KOBE, YOKKAICHI AND YOKOHAMA.

Operated by the magnificent and splendidly equipped passenger steamers "Fushimi Maru," "Kashima Maru," & "Kisori Maru," each of over 10,000 tons displacement.

Next sailings from Hongkong.

*Fushimi Maru TUES., 11th June, at 11 a.m.

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B. MORI, Manager.

Telephone Nos. 292 & 293.

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FAST AND LUXURIOUS MAIL STEAMERS.

Sailings from Hongkong—Subject to change without notice.

Steamers	Tons	Leave Hongkong
KOREA MARU	18,000	24th May
SIBERIA MARU	18,000	8th June
YANTO MARU	22,000	22nd June
SHINYO MARU	22,000	16th July

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KITO MARU	17,200	12th July
ANYO MARU	18,500	6th September
NIPPON MARU	11,000	26th September

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CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

SAILINGS SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

For	Steamers	To Sail
SHANGHAI	Yingchow	18th May at 3 p.m.
SHANGHAI	Sinkiang	21st May at 3 p.m.
TIENHSIN	Huichow	23rd May at noon
SHANGHAI	Suiyang	23rd May at 3 p.m.

SHANGHAI LINE.—PASSENGERS, MAILS AND CARGO. Excellent Saloon accommodation. Amidships; Electric Light and Fans in Saloon and State-rooms. Regular schedule service between Canton, Hongkong and Shanghai, taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Yangtze and Northern China Ports. Passengers are landed in Shanghai, avoiding the inconvenience of transshipment at Woosung.

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Regular Fortnightly Service between
CHINA and JAPAN.

Steamer	From	Expected on or about	Will leave on or about	For
Tissalak	San Francisco	in port	22nd May	Java
Tikiiki	Java	17th May	19th May	Yokohama
Tijmanoeck	Java & M'sar	30th May	—	—

"The steamers are all fitted throughout with electric light and have accommodation for a limited number of saloon-passengers. All steamers carry a fully qualified surgeon. Cargo taken at through-rates to all ports in Netherlands-India and Australia."

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Steamships	Captain	Leaving
Mailong	J. W. Evans	FRI., 17th May at noon.
Haitan	A. E. Hodgkins	TUES., 21st May at noon.

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NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

(Projected Sailings from Hongkong.—Subject to Alteration.)

For	Steamship	On
SHANGHAI via Swatow	Taisang	Fri., 17th May at d'light.
HAIPHONG via Hoihow	Taksang	Fri., 17th May at 7 a.m.
MANILA	Eaang	Fri., 17th May at 3 p.m.
SHANGHAI via Swatow	Wosang	Sun., 19th May at d'light.
SANDAKAN	Mausang	Tues., 21st May at noon.
MANILA	Yuensang	Fri., 24th May at 3 p.m.

Returning from Calcutta steamers proceed to Kobe and Moji, frequently calling at Shanghai.

These steamers have excellent passenger accommodation, are fitted with Electric Light and carry a fully qualified Surgeon. This line is temporarily discontinued owing to the war.

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SHANGHAI LINE.—Sailings approximately every five days between Canton and Shanghai, sometimes calling at Swatow. Steamers on this line have a limited amount of passenger accommodation, and through tickets can be obtained for Canton and Yangtze Ports via Shanghai.

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HAIPHONG LINE.—Sailings approximately weekly for passengers and cargo, calling at Hoihow when indicated on application.

BORNEO LINE.—One sailing per month between Hongkong and Sandakan by a steamer, having up to date accommodation for passengers.

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TIENHSIN LINE.—A regular service is run from March to October between Hongkong and Tientsin calling at Waihaiwei and Chefoo.

Under Straits Government Passport Regulations.

All European Passengers, leaving the Colony for Straits Settlement, are required to produce on arrival at destination passports with their Photographs and description affixed thereto.

For Freight or passage, apply to

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AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANY.

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Branches and Agencies in all
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TOURIST AGENTS.AMERICAN EXPRESS TRAVELLERS CHECKS.
The best form in which to carry travel funds.

11, QUEEN'S ROAD, CENTRAL TEL. NO. 222.

SHIPPING NEWS.

A Millionaire Shipowner.

Sir John Ellerman, Bart., who has recently invested £1,000,000 in the "Bank Bank," probably controls more shipping interests than any other owner in the United Kingdom, and he has more important deals to his credit than any other shipowner save, perhaps, Lord Inchcape. Sir John was born at Hull 55 years ago. By acquiring a year or so ago the business of Thomas Wilson, Sons and Co., the largest private firm of shipowners in the world, he, therefore, renewed his early associations with that town. Sir John Ellerman was, indeed, one of the first to recognize the importance of shipping combined, and it was one of his successful deals that led to the formation of the International Mercantile Marine Company. When he was invited to reorganise the finances of the Bucknall Company, which sustained heavy losses during the South African War, it is said that he did so with such success that, in addition, to a management fee of 1 percent on the gross turnover, he receives a big sum annually by way of profit on the transaction. And it is obvious that, judging by age, at all events, he has ample time for many more triumphs. Sir John is not content with confining his self to his shipowning activities, for it is pretty well known that he is the mastermind in many other affairs, while it is understood that he is very largely interested in the "Times."

Shipbuilding and Engineering
in China.

With regard to the question of newer industries, modern shipbuilding and the other departments of mechanical engineering have received very little attention in China. There are 23 shipbuilding and engineering works on the coast, of which three only are Chinese property. Of all these works only three build ships, the remainder confining themselves to repairs and general engineering work. There are about 12 railway works in the country, but with the exception of those belonging to the Peking-Mukden and Shanghai-Nankin Railways, the shops are employed on general maintenance work, and very little outside work is done. All machinery used is imported, as is also all steel for structural purposes. This market was in the hands of Great Britain and Germany before the war, the latter dealing principally in electrical machinery. In this department Germany had attained a paramount position, largely owing to the long credit system and curious notions of commercial morality, and also by the employment of men with a thorough knowledge of the country, who did not stick to the treaty ports, but went to look for orders. Lately Japan has begun to compete in all branches of this trade. The kindred subject of shipping accommodation has been very little studied, all the initiative in this respect lying with the foreign communities, or with departments of the Chinese Government under foreign control. Thus the conservancy of the troublesome rivers on which the ports of Shanghai, Tientsin and Newchwang lie, is to all intents and purpose in foreign hands. Owing to cheap labour loading accommodation in the shape of wharves is very poor, with the exception of the ports of Shanghai, Tientsin and Dalny, and the privately-owned port of Chingwangtao. Of these, Tientsin can only take vessels drawing 15ft. of water. In other places, lighters are used entirely. All coaling is done by cogge labour. The only purely Chinese harbour improvement schemes are those at Chefoo, H. Shantung, and Hulets in the province of Manchuria. The last scheme has been abandoned half-finished owing to lack of money. There is only one Chinese steamship company of any size, the bulk of the coaling and river trade being carried on in junks whose draft never exceeds 13ft. and for which very little harbour accommodation suffices. These junks are, for heavy loading, wood built, with huge sails, rather resembling the ships of the Elizabethan era. Their storage does not exceed 800 tons, but they are amazingly well handled considering their clumsiness and make quite lengthy voyages. The lighting of the Chinese coast in the home of the Chinese Maritime Customs, a Government department, under international supervision, and meets all modern requirements. Engineering

COMPANY MEETINGS.

The China Borneo Co. Ltd.

(VERBATIM)

The fifteenth ordinary yearly meeting of the China Borneo Co. Ltd., was held at the Company's Office, St. George's Building, this morning. Mr. A. O. Lang presided and there were also present the Hon. Sir Paul Chater, O.M.G., Mr. W. G. Darby, Mr. A. E. Griffin (Consulting Committee), Messrs. T. E. Pearce, E. L. Bridger, W. D. Kraft, L. Y. Po, K. Sayce and O. Baptista (shareholders).

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen, as it is past the hour for which this meeting has been called, I will ask Mr. Kennett to read the notice convening the meeting.

The Secretary having read the notice.

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen, with your permission we shall take the report and accounts, together with the auditor's certificate, as read. When addressing you last year, I pointed out that the difficulties of tonnage then existing would preclude the Company from enjoying any degree of prosperity till conditions should become more normal. Since then the question of obtaining freight has become still more acute; our business with the United Kingdom has now entirely ceased and our facilities for shipping from Borneo to China have been reduced to one third of what they were during 1917. Under these circumstances I trust shareholders will not be dissatisfied with the net profit realised, which is some \$3,400 more than for the preceding year. If I may call your attention to the balance sheet for a moment you will notice that we have again been obliged to make very extensive provision for the adjustment of our balances held in Borneo and London to the high rate of exchange ruling here at the end of the year. Since our last meeting we have had our fixed assets here and in Borneo revalued, and in all cases the figures show such a considerable margin over those at which they stand in our books that we have not considered it necessary on this occasion, with the exception of Plant Account which is subject to heavy wear and tear, to apply our customary scale of depreciation, considering it more advisable, in view of the present uncertain conditions, to carry forward a large sum as undivided profit which we can deal with later on as may seem desirable in the Company's interests. I may mention, however, that we have made a provision of \$3,500 coolies and contractors debts. Under the system which obtains in Borneo all work of hauling of timber is done under advances which are not secured, and though in the past we have never suffered any serious loss in this connection we consider it prudent to make some provision against the possibility of any such losses. I might add that the total amount outstanding at the end of last year in this connection was approximately \$17,000. I hope shareholders will approve our recommendation in regard to the dividend; it is 1 per cent. higher than last year but in our opinion the financial position warrants this small increase. Shareholders will note with approval that the cash position of the Company continues to be quite sound, and that stocks and sundry debtors have been further reduced during the year by over \$40,000. I regret to say that our General Manager has intimated to us his desire to be relieved of his duties after the 30th of June next and we have accepted his resignation. Mr. Darby has served the Company well and faithfully for 29 years and I cannot over-estimate the services he has rendered during that period.—(Applause). I am pleased to say, however, that his connection with the Company will not be entirely severed as we have arranged, for the present at any rate, he will retain his seat on the Consulting Committee.

Mr. Darby's retirement will involve certain changes in the Management of the Company, and to bring these into effect it will probably be necessary to make some alterations in the

Articles of Association in regard to which shareholders will receive due notice. With these few remarks, I now beg to propose the adoption of the report and accounts as presented and after they have been read I shall be pleased to answer to the best of my ability any questions which shareholders may desire to put.

Mr. Kraft:—I have much pleasure in seconding the adoption of the report and accounts and also to congratulate the management on the showing they have made, although we should not consider the adverse tonnage situation which we are now experiencing as general, for I am sure that when this great war is over and conditions become more normal there is a great future of progress for this Company. I should like to express my regrets at Mr. Darby's retirement but I am glad to know that he is not entirely severing his connection with the Company but will still give us the benefit of his experience.

The Chairman:—There being no questions I will put the resolution to the meeting. It has been proposed by myself and seconded by Mr. Kraft that the report and accounts be adopted. All those in favour? Against? Carried unanimously. The next business is the re-election of the Hon. Sir Paul Chater.

Mr. Bridger:—I beg to propose the re-election of Sir Paul Chater as a member of the Consulting Committee.

Mr. Darby:—I beg to second, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman:—It has been proposed by Mr. Bridger and seconded by Mr. Darby that the Hon. Sir Paul Chater be re-elected a member of the Consulting Committee. All those in favour? Carried unanimously. The next business is the re-election of the auditor.

Mr. Baptista:—I beg to propose that Mr. O. Bernard Brown, A.O.A. be re-elected auditor at a remuneration of \$250 per annum.

Mr. Pearce:—I beg to second that Mr. Bernard Brown, A.O.A. be re-elected auditor at a remuneration of \$250.

The Chairman:—It has been proposed by Mr. Baptista and seconded by Mr. Pearce that Mr. Bernard Brown, A.O.A. be re-elected auditor for the ensuing year at a remuneration of \$250. All those in favour? Against? Carried unanimously. That is all the business, gentlemen, thank you for your attendance. Dividend warrants are now ready and may be had on application at the office.

The Canton Insurance Office, Ltd.

The thirty-seventh ordinary meeting of the Canton Insurance Office, was held at the office of the Company, Pedder Street, today at noon. The Hon. Mr. David Landale presided, and there were also present the Hon. Sir C. Paul Chater, O.M.G., the Hon. Mr. E. Shellim, Messrs. E. J. Chapman, H. P. White, and C. S. Gubbay, (Consulting Committee), L. N. Leefe, (Secretary), and the Hon. Mr. Ho Fook, Messrs. P. C. Potts, C. W. Beswick, E. Percy Smith, E. V. Part, G. Grimble, E. M. Raymond, Capt. Douglas, Ho Leung, G. K. Huxton, Lo Cheung Shiu, Chua Sai-ki, Capt. Clarke, Lo Man Hin and Chai Sai Nam (shareholders).

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen, as it is past the hour for which this meeting has been called, and as there is a quorum present, I will ask the Secretary to read the notice convening the meeting.

The Secretary having read the notice.

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen, this is the fourth occasion on which your General Agents and Consulting Committee have had to report to you the progress and experience of the Company under war conditions. These conditions create problems and difficulties in many respects quite different from the ones that naturally attend the ordinary of path marine insurance, and it is interesting to note what capacity the business has shown for adapting itself to these strange and twisted times. The reports of practically all Companies—of all those I have had an opportunity of perusing—disclose a very substantial rise in the premium income. This is not, of course, so obvious where the management does not under-

take war risks, but where, as in our case, war risks form an important part of our activities, this enhancement in premium income becomes very marked. It is quite evident that these larger figures must throw upon the clerical assistance of the Companies great demands, as well as adding to the stress of management, and it is, I think, wonderful how these demands have been replied to, bearing in mind the national calls for man service, which have been met so well.

It is hardly possible to over-estimate the additional dangers which have arisen to confront our business. The unexampled demands upon shipping have led to the removal of steamers from their regular run, and their replacement by steamers frequently of a vastly inferior type. Accumulations also of cargo occur at transshipment centres, causing a congestion of liability which it is impossible to control, and the increase of the perils of the seas and on the seas cannot be measured. It is remarkable that these conditions should have been withstood so well—for our own successful experience is, I am glad to say, not unique—and that this branch of our national business, this national asset of marine insurance, has continued to prove so sound. Indeed, in the realms of all the older branches of insurance—fire, life, and marine—British enterprise enjoys in the wealthy and long established undertakings, whose names are almost household words everywhere, a position that is unequalled.

Another circumstance with which Companies like our own, established on a silver basis, have had to contend is the rise in the price of exchange. This is the second year we have had to place our figures before you with a drop in the value of gold profits of twenty-five per cent.—fifty per cent. in two years. We fortunately, some years ago realised that since the Company obviously had in the future to make its investments largely in gold—to increase its gold assets—our safeguard lay in creating gold liabilities, and the wisdom of establishing a Gold Reserve Fund and of the other steps taken at that time are very apparent in the balance sheet before you.

A further echo of the war is the shrinkage in the value of securities. We have had again to write down value which on 31st December, 1916, had already been heavily written down, and my own view is that that necessity will probably again appear. Five per cent. is a very fine rate of interest to get for first-class securities, compared any way with pre-war days, but it has a very depressing effect upon three and a half per cents and four, and I personally cannot see either now, or on the declaration of peace, the slightest prospect of a revival in the price of such securities. We have, as you will note, a fund of over \$25,000 to provide for further depreciation, and so we ourselves can, I think, face this possible demand with equanimity.

Gentlemen, I have briefly alluded to some of the dangers and difficulties confronting our business at the present time, and the moral which I draw, and which I think must also be obvious to you, is the necessity, so long as war lasts and these difficulties exist, of conserving our position and adding to our funds. It is this which prevents your Consulting Committee from feeling justified in advocating an increase in the dividend which a superficial examination of the balance sheet might tempt one to do, and it also must not be forgotten that the maintenance of the dividend at the level of the last two years constitutes an increased tax on the profits of a Company such as this, which earns so large a portion of its income in countries having a gold standard. Shareholders in Hongkong should appreciate this, whilst shareholders in Europe have of course benefited very largely.

The following figures will prove of interest:—The dividend of \$250,000 paid in May 1910 cost \$23,953; the same dividend paid in May 1917 cost \$29,947, and the dividend to be declared to-day costs \$37,500, taking in each case the rate of exchange at which the figures are taken in the balance sheet.

Gentlemen, you will notice that in 1917 we made on your behalf a contribution to War Charities of \$5,690, and when an appeal recently came round again, the Office made a donation of \$10,000, which will be shown in 1918 Account, and I have no doubt you will thoroughly approve of this.

I do not think there is anything else in the accounts to which I need make special reference. I trust you will approve of our rounding off the Sterling Reserve Fund at \$200,000—the appropriation to Underwriting Suspense Account, is, of course, a necessity of the business—and I can only conclude with the hope that the very favourable prospects which the 1917 Account offers may be fulfilled.

I have assumed that you would permit me to take the report and accounts as read, and I now therefore formally propose:—That the report and accounts as presented, including the payment of a final dividend in respect of the year 1916 of \$7 per share, and of an interim dividend in respect of the year 1917 of \$18 per share, the addition of \$20,000 to the Sterling Reserve Fund and of \$336,460.83 to the Underwriting Suspense Account be adopted and passed.

Mr. Parr:—Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, it gives me much pleasure to rise for the purpose of seconding the motion for the adoption of the report and accounts. You have alluded to the difficulties which confront marine underwriting at the present time, and it is very evident that the losses which have befallen the Mercantile Marine during the period covered by the accounts, caused by the ruthless method of a barbarous foe, must have added enormously to the difficulties of making underwriting estimates, and it is, therefore, I think highly creditable to the management, and a matter which should cause them the liveliest satisfaction to terminate the work of such a year with so good a result.—(Hear, hear.) The figures for 1917 are very encouraging and the ease with which the dividend is maintained places the shares of the Company in the forefront of stable and reliable investments.

It is very satisfactory to see that the provision for dealing with the effect of exchange upon our figures has proved so adequate in spite of the fluctuations having varied to an extent that it was hardly possible to contemplate, and the wisdom which placed the necessary tax upon former good years, and which has created so substantial an Underwriting Suspense Account fills us with confidence that our interests are in good hands.—(Applause).

Gentlemen, I think also that our thanks are due to the staffs, many members of which would not doubt at the present time prefer to be at the front fighting in the defence of their country. These, gentlemen, may rest assured that they are carrying on to the best of their ability the work of the Empire by remaining to their posts until such times as those who are in proper authority say that their services are required for the fighting line. I support, as I am sure all shareholders do in the heartiest manner, the contributions which the Office has made to War Charities, and I conclude with an expression of congratulation to the General Agents and Consulting Committee on the results they have achieved.—(Applause).

The Chairman:—The adoption of the report and accounts has been proposed by myself and seconded by Mr. Parr and is now before the meeting for discussion. As no shareholder has any questions to ask, I will put the resolution to the meeting. Those in favour please signify in the usual way. Against? Carried unanimously. The next business, gentlemen, is the election of the Consulting Committee.

Capt. Douglas:—I beg to propose that the Hon. Sir Paul Chater, the Hon. Mr. E. Shellim, Sir Robert Ho Tung, Mr. O. S. Gubbay, Mr. H. P. White, Mr. E. J. Chapman together with the Chairman be re-elected the Consulting Committee for the ensuing financial year.

Mr. Potts:—I have much pleasure in seconding that.

The Chairman:—That has been proposed by Capt. Douglas and seconded by Mr. Potts, application?

Those in favour please signify in the usual way. Against? Carried unanimously. The next business, gentlemen, is the re-election of auditors.

Mr. Huxton:—I beg to propose that Mr. Percy Smith, F.O.A., and Mr. A. R. Lowe, F.O.A., be re-elected auditors to hold office until the next ordinary meeting at a remuneration of \$500 each.

Mr. Beswick:—I have much pleasure in seconding that. The Chairman:—It has been proposed by Mr. Huxton and seconded by Mr. Beswick that Mr. Percy Smith, F.O.A., and Mr. A. R. Lowe, F.O.A., be re-elected auditors to hold office until the next ordinary meeting at a remuneration of \$500 each. Those in favour please hold up their hands. Against? Carried unanimously. Gentlemen, this concludes the business of the meeting; thank you for your attendance. Dividend warrants are now ready and can be obtained on application.

Peak Tramways Co., Ltd.

The ordinary annual general meeting of shareholders of the Peak Tramway Company, Ltd., was held at the Hongkong Hotel, today at noon. Mr. Henry Humphreys presided and there were present Mr. C. S. Gubbay, Hon. Sir C. P. Chater, O.M.G., and Mr. David Landale (directors), Mr. G. Rapp (Secretary), Messrs. M. S. Northcote, J. M. Wong, D. E. Clarke, W. Morley, and J. A. Tarrant (shareholders).

The Chairman:—Gentlemen, it is now past the hour for which the meeting has been called and I will now call Mr. Rapp to read the notice convening the meeting.

The Secretary then read the notice.

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen, I propose with your permission to take the report and statement of accounts as read auditors' certificate as read. The accounts before you are an improvement on the last two years notwithstanding the increased price we have had to pay for nearly everything. The item which for many years figured in the accounts under the heading of mortgage E. B. L. 80 has now disappeared, the mortgage having been paid off in October last. The item on the debit side of Profit and Loss Account "Depreciation on Investments" represents the amount we have had to write off to bring our investments down to market prices. In this connection I may mention that market prices on 30th April were in all cases a recent dividend, and the loss is to some extent counter-balanced by the unusually large amount on the credit side of profit and loss under the heading of interest and dividends received. I trust that the donation to War Charities of \$2,000 will meet with your approval, as also the proposed distribution of profits. I have no further remarks to make but when the accounts have been duly seconded I shall be pleased to answer any questions shareholders may have to ask.

Mr. Northcote:—I beg to second the adoption of the report and accounts and at the same time to congratulate the management on the improved statement of accounts.

The Chairman:—The reports and accounts have been proposed by myself and seconded by Mr. Northcote and the motion is now before the meeting. Those in favour? Against? Carried unanimously.

Mr. Humphreys proposed the re-election of the directors—Mr. J. Scott Huxton, Mr. O. S. Gubbay, Hon. Sir C. P. Chater, O.M.G., and Hon. David Landale, Mr. D. E. Clarke seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. W. Morley proposed and Mr. J. M. Wong seconded the election of Messrs. C. Bernard Brown and A. R. Lowe as auditors at a remuneration of \$100. This was carried unanimously.

The Chairman:—That is all the business, gentlemen. Dividend warrants are ready and can be had on application.

Catalogues Arrive.

We are advised by the American Express Company that they have received a limited supply of Messrs. Montgomery Ward and Company's catalogues, which they will be glad to distribute on application.

THE BIG OPIUM CASE.

Withdrawal of Criminal Proceedings.

At the Police Court this afternoon, before Mr. J. R. Wood, application was made for the discharge of Lee Hy-san and Ma Chi-lung, the defendants who have figured so prominently in the "million dollar opium case" which has been before the Civil Court of the Colony for so long. It will be remembered that nearly a year ago they were arrested on a charge of conspiracy, the criminal proceedings being later stayed pending a decision in the Civil Court. The civil judgment has now been given in their favour.

The Hon. Attorney General (Mr. J. H. Kemp), accompanied by Mr. F. O. Jenkin and the Crown Solicitor (Mr. G. H. Wake-man) appeared for the Crown and Mr. C. G. Alabaster, accompanied by Mr. C. E. H. Beavie, represented both the defendants.

The Attorney General said:—In view of the judgment of the Supreme Court in the civil case which was finally delivered on the 14th instant, the Crown propose to withdraw this charge. This case would have come on yesterday morning but for the fact, that, as I understand, your Worship found that it would be more convenient that it should come on this afternoon. Both sides naturally fell in with this arrangement. I mention this because I want to make it clear that the Crown were prepared to withdraw the charge yesterday morning. I feel that it is my duty on behalf of the Government to refer to one other matter. On the 14th instant my learned friend Mr. Potter, as reported in the South China Morning Post of the 15th instant, made the following statement with reference to this case:—"I think it is time that the public of Hongkong knew the position of the Government and had it made clear, once and for all, because the Government had not only seen fit to make itself responsible for the costs of the action but had intervened and arrested the defendants on precisely the same charges that your Lordship is investigating, and had taken the case to the Police Court and applied for a stay of the civil proceedings. In other words, an effort was made to stop a proper ventilation of these issues and an examination of them in the proper civil court and to substitute therefor criminal proceedings. This is a complete mis-statement of the position. It is not true that an effort was made to stop a proper ventilation of these issues and an examination of them in the proper civil court. As pointed out by Mr. Potter himself in another part of the very same statement, judgment was about to be given against the plaintiff by default because the plaintiff had no funds to continue the action. If the Government had not intervened, the ventilation and examination of the issues by the Civil Court would have been stopped, owing to lack of funds and for no other reason, and it is entirely incorrect to suggest that the object of the Government was to stop that ventilation and examination. As the civil action was about to be dismissed part heard, without any proper investigation of the issues having been possible, the Government proceeded to institute criminal proceedings against the defendants. The Government were practically obliged to institute these proceedings in view of the very serious charges of fraud and forgery which had been brought to their notice. Their intention was to proceed with the prosecution forthwith, and it was only in deference to the views expressed by their Lordships the Chief Justice and the Puisne Judge that the criminal proceedings should remain in abeyance until the civil action was concluded, that the Government eventually decided to accept responsibility for the future costs of the Official Receiver. Since the Government's intervention a period of nearly nine months has been occupied in the ventilation and examination of the issues which were then before the Court. It was the

POLICE RESERVE ORDERS.

Order drawn to day by Mr. F. O. Jenkin, C.B.E., state:—

Capes. Members of Nos. 1, 2 and 3 Companies not yet in possession of caps will attend at Headquarters Club on either Tuesday, May 21, or Wednesday, May 22, between the hours of 5.30 and 6 p.m. Uniform optional. Equipment officers will attend.

Active Service. P. O. 422 W. J. Corrie is granted leave for duration of the war.

Joined. No. 2 Platoon—P. O. 479 K. S. Mohamed, 478 Umra and 480 Zardad.

YOU CLEAN OUTSIDE

but what about your inside? To be healthy it's just as important to cleanse the system of impurities as it is to keep the body clean.



gently stimulate the bowels, thus dispelling biliousness, liveriness, sick headaches and the other ills of Constipation. Of chemists, also post free 60 cents the vial from Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., 96 Szechuen Road, Shanghai.

America's Artillery Output.

American official figures show that the output of artillery is three times what was originally thought possible. The Americans proceeding to Europe are amply supplied with surplus material, which will be available for the Allies.

The Labour Battalions.

Mr. Macpherson, in Parliamentary papers, states that a change has taken place in the command of labour battalions on the Western front, but that the reorganisation has been carried out in the interest of efficiency of labour. The Brigadier-General lately in charge, who was no longer required under the new scheme, has been appointed Controller of Salvage.

Government's intervention which secured that ventilation and examination, and the defendants themselves professed to welcome the intervention, because of the opportunity that it would give them of clearing themselves. Mr. Potter set out in his statement to inform the public of the position of the Government, and I think it only right to point out that the information which he gave them, given of course in all good faith, was entirely inaccurate. Whatever inferences he may seek to draw from what I said, I can assure him that my statement was made to stop a proper ventilation and examination of the issues in the proper civil court, and the facts are clearly opposed to any inference to the contrary.

Mr. Alabaster made lengthy reply, reviewing the whole of the proceedings and the details of the allegations made against his clients. He went into the history of the case and particularised the actions of the plaintiff behind the Official Receiver in the Civil Court, saying that the Puisne Judge had found that man to be a blackmailer and perjurer. When his funds for carrying on the civil case failed, the Government arrested the two defendants on a criminal charge and later made itself responsible for the costs of the action, over and above what the plaintiff could find. On every one of the charges preferred against his clients, the Puisne Judge had found that the whole of their actions were honest.

His Worship, in discharging the men, said that as far as that Court was concerned, nothing remained against them. They were both discharged.

ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS.

FISHI ONO, Manager

*"The Cigarette
with the
Pedigree"*



What followed was of like character. When the "German Peace" was translated into action it was found to involve the invasion of Russian territory, the destruction or capture of all Russian means of defence, and—the organization of Russian lands for Germany's profit—a proceeding which did not differ from "annexation" because the word itself was carefully avoided.

Meanwhile those very Russians who had made military operations impossible found diplomacy impotent. Their representatives were compelled to proclaim that, while they refused to read the treaty presented to them, they had no choice but to sign it; so they signed it not knowing whether it was true or false, or even if it was a treaty.

Are justice and right going to win? In so far as the issue depends on battles yet to come, the nations whose fate is in the balance may surely put their trust in armies which, even under conditions more difficult than the present, showed themselves more than equal to the great cause entrusted to their power.

IN ACCORDANCE with Ordinance No. 5 of 1912 the **EXCHANGE BANKS** will be **CLOSED** for the transaction of **Public Business** on **MONDAY**, the 20th instant.

Hongkong, 16th May, 1918.

TUESDAY, 26th May.
Straits, Bangkok, Ceylon, Bombay, Aden,
Egypt and Europe—28th May.
Registration 9.45 a.m. Letters
10.30 a.m.

in morning. a afternoon.

PHILIP CARLTON, Manager.

Bliss!

Hon.

King

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